

HOUSE OF THE GALLERY

2d Session, 3d Parliament.

Official Correspondence

Between the Honorable the FIRST MINISTER OF DUFFY, and
His Exalted Majesty NIGHT BLOOMING CERES, Monarch of
the Moon, Emperor of the Starry Isles, etc., etc., relative to the
construction of the

IMPERIAL, LUNAR, GRAND, MID-AIR, LUNATIC
GOVERNMENTAL RAILWAY,

~~X~~
ALSO THE

REPORTS OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER,

AND THE

DRAFT TREATY IN RELATION TO THE SAME,

WITH THE

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

*Printed in compliance with a Resolution of the House of the
Gallery, dated March 31st, 1875.*

OTTAWA:

PRINTED BY THE CITIZEN PRINTING AND PUBLISHING COMPANY.

1875.

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Official Correspondence

BETWEEN

· DUFFY'S GOVERNMENT OF THE UNIVERSAL PARLIAMENT OF THE GALLERY

AND THE

VISIONARY SUPREME & EXALTED GOVERNMENT & MOON

In compliance with a resolution of the said Government, dated March 17th, 1875.

From the Ethereal Government of Moonland to Duffy's
First Minister.

PALACE OF LUNAR,
16th Kino.

ILLUSTRIOUS MAGNATE OF A LARGER WORLD.

The quaking of mountains and the surging of oceans of cheese, heralded the approach of your Commissioner, whose mighty sneeze convulsed our empire. Know, O First Minister that he was duly elevated, and the staggering of his footsteps impressed us with the gravity of his mission

His credentials were duly inspected through our marine glasses and we bade him welcome as the representative of a mighty planet.

The practicability of a scheme which reflects no small credit upon your empire has raised you in our estimation and we thirst for a lesser interval between drinks.

Know then, O First Minister, that, by command of our Monarch of the Moon, (may his name ever be exalted!) it is my duty to inform you of the resources of our system, whose rays though borrowed, throw upon your rubicund countenance its halo of intellectuality.

The size of our world is ten-herto-millions of myriadical spheres. It is bounded on the North by a magnificent pasturage of carnivorous produce, called in your vulgar parlance, "The Milky Way;" on the South by a remote region, between the inhabitants of which, and us, there exists an intense coldness; on the East by a large section of comparatively inferior beings of evangelical proclivities; on the West by millions of shadowy forms of one, Horace, Greeley, whose harmless diversions chiefly consist in vapoury-agricultural pursuits. A street railway, in course of construction, between this and adjacent smaller spheres, will, it is expected, develop much useful information as yet unknown.

Our mineral products are air bubbles, concentrated tobacco juice, and a new and valuable substitute for "Goldline Jewellery."

We have also a natural soda water spring, with a rivulet of pure brandy, about a quarter of a mile distant. Large mounds of compressed meerschaum and imitation briar root, can be seen in abundance. Our minor minerals are soft soap, diamonds, rubies, and other gems, which we give our children to play with, or exchange with the barbarous tribes of smaller worlds for pot luck and other useful commodities. Root beer affords us a large source of revenue. An Areolite Manufactory for pyrotechnic purposes has recently been established. It is a very light concern and these useful instruments are utilized as a means of telegraphing to Kingdom Kum.

We are clothed in innocence—nothing more. The naked truth is the first principle of our Constitution. The "light of other days" is utilized to a large extent, and we are informed by your Ambassador that this is the

"Light he sighs for,
Dies for
And exclaims 'my eye!' for
This light all other lights beats out of time;
Camphine or Solar
Paraffine or Lime
O'er the Electric it has quite the pull
And beats the Bude light its so beautiful."

An enlightened press is not the least of the many advantages we possess. We give no "puffs" and no credit. Subscriptions, unless paid in advance, are never expected to be paid for, and editorials are characterized by a lightness of phraseology which prevents them assuming an heaviness inconsistent with Lunar principles.

Our "House of Commons," as you call it, is no common affair, it consists of a number of stars, each one a speciality in his own particular line of business. The Reports of the House are taken down in sulphur by a competent staff of intellectual lucifers.

Our manufactories are of a kind which must be seen to be appreciated. Our principal establishment, organized by the Government, is for the manufacture of New Ideas. It pays a large profit to the country. We have also another for the condensing by machinery of Obscure Jokes, and by that means a large amount of brain labor is saved. The manufacture of aerated biscuits is another large source of revenue.

Our atmosphere is of a kind that tends to make us light-headed, thereby securing a higher grade of intelligence.

Our Post Office system, in our opinion, cannot be excelled. Our mode of distributing mails is unique and interesting. By an improved system of "dead letters" we afford a lively and pleasant occupation to illiterate officials. Our letter carriers are all men of stamp, and distribute a large amount of intelligence throughout our globe.

Our Sanitary system embraces large and comprehensive arrangements, by means of which the greatest lunatics are Chairmen of the Boards of Health. A bonus of ten (10) pastos *per capita* is allowed on all lunatics who are impoverished through their own folly.

An Immigration Bureau, for the introduction of refuse convicts is in contemplation.

A Prohibitory Water Law has worked well, and we find that the liquid is comparatively unknown in these regions, except for ablutionary purposes, and even then a tax is laid upon its use. Its introduction here would prove disastrous in its results, and the only kind used is generally, mixed.

I have, therefore, O Minister of Duffy, laid before you, by command of the Monarch of the Moon, a brief and hasty sketch of our resources. This Government is prepared to pay one half the cost of survey of the contemplated railroad, and His exalted Majesty the Monarch of the Moon, begs to assure you of his friendly relationship in regard to the proposed scheme. In token whereof I have hereunto caused the seal of the Lunarrays to be affixed.



MUHN SHYNE,
VISIONARY EXTRAORDINARY.

REPORT No. 1 of the Chief Engineer of the Imperial Lunar Grand Mid-Air Governmental Railway.

ASTEROID HOTEL, SKY HI MOUNTAIN,
19th KINO, 17th CYCLO.

To the Honorable the First Minister of Duffy:—

SIR,—Taking advantage of a current of air, which leaves here promptly between meals, I have etheralized myself, and have the honor to waft to you my first Report upon the Survey of the Lunatic Railroad, in compliance with your instructions dated March 18th, 1873.

The stupendous undertaking which I have the honor to control, subject to your instructions, has been eminently successful, and I shall give you the details of my transactions in the order in which they occurred.

On the night of the 18th, I left Ottawa in the contemplated elevator at the Russell House, attached myself to a cable wire, and reached London in five minutes, where I purchased supplies of baked beans and perriwinkles. Having concluded my business, which was effected in choice "Billingsgate," I consulted with a poor relation of Professor Donaldson, and hired a soap bubble at a merely nominal figure.

When about five miles high, I took observations, and found I was drifting slowly along upon the right wing of a Volunteer Battalion.

My instructions being to find the shortest practicable route, I cut myself adrift from the balloon, having previously inflated myself with self-importance. I was carried in a breath to Mystery Flats, which is located southeast of the 2nd parallel of U. No, supposing the traveller to be situated in a position in keeping with that latitude. Position in this case is everything. Being out of funds I drew a cheque upon the reins of Government, and was promptly informed that a large draft upon my imagination would be duly honored. Mystery Flats has three distinct currents. The first runs in the direction of the Ionian Islands; the second is connected by ocean passage with the Straits of Mallaca; and the third rises in a yeasterly direction to Dough Island, spoken of by Baker in his "Kneads of a Traveller." The fundamental principle of my design was to find a good basis on which a pole could be erected suitable for telegraphic purposes. The resources of Mystery Flats are ozokerit candles and palm oil, which are used for lubricating purposes by a portion of the inhabitants. I slept at Mystery Flats that night with a stranger, and started early next morning after affixing seal upon a bottle of V. O., which I deposited in the "sands of time," labelled "Poison!" I may say that the Queen of the Flats, who closely resembles our pale half-breeds, is desirous of establishing a more intimate relationship with the Government upon most moderate terms, to be agreed upon hereafter.

Having renovated my wardrobe, which was somewhat disarranged, I started in a line for Virgin Falls, having been presented with the following address from the people:—

Kinkawally wafts you on your mission to the Moon.
He likes your style of business and hopes you'll come back soon.
His blessing doth go with you, O earthly Prince of bricks!
You're a valuable accession to celestial lunatics.

Rude Boréas is jealous, but his jealousy won't last,
He's a regular howling swell, of a kind that's rather first
Take no notice of his malice for every one doth know
He's a regular roaring lunatic and given much to blow.

Insanity, the highest type, exists in this retreat
(In case you get light headed, we'll place you on your feet.)
We'll prime you up with liquor made by spirits of the air
Of a quality you'll find indeed that's very fair.

Exalted Minister of State our notions rather high
We've a splendid style of living in our "Mansions in the sky."
Our taste for music's very fine, our airs you will admire
We play a solo every night on our own Eolian lyre.

So touch the chord and let him go
 Breathe very soft ye winds
 Polly put the kettle on,
 Pull down the parlor blinds
 Kinkawally now retires, absorbed in bitter grief
 Impatient until your return we'll never find relief.

Farewell, good bye, *au revoir* my very best of friends
 "Enchantment to the view," 'tis said that distance lends.
 To your Imperial coat tail we our regal seal affix,
 Go on your way rejoicing my Prince of Lunatics.

Here I encountered a large open space, entirely devoid of air, with a fine natural water shed, suitable for irrigating purposes. I cannot too strongly impress upon the Government, the necessity of reforming the fallen angels of that section. A most favorable opportunity is here afforded for constructing a Government Depot. The people are intelligent, unaffected and modest. They are nearly all "looney." The gaseous material upon which they live is highly nutritious, being mainly derived from the breath of the morning. They are polite and witty. There is an odour about them—but not of sanctity. There are as many *scents* at the Falls as would make a dollar. I counted forty during my brief stay. Between Mystery Flats and Virgin Falls, I would suggest that a line of railway be constructed on the straight guage system, having in view the eternal fitness of things. The road, however, should be neither straight, narrow, or broad, and most certainly not round, as that would involve a superfluous expenditure. I would suggest that it be of cuniform shape, with a view to exits and entrances. A loop line could be built if necessary. The grading will take a considerable time, as there is a large obstacle to be overcome. A thick wall, composed of fossilized rhinoceros hide, will take about six months to tunnel. Mammoth drills could be used, which if employed with effect, would *augur* well for its success. I am decidedly opposed to blasting the scheme or damming it in any way. The simplest and most natural method is the best, and that is to feel your way along with the aid of a dark lantern, the use of which would throw considerable light upon the interior economy. The people of "Virgin Falls" thrive principally upon the "milk of human kindness."

There is a Penitentiary at Virgin Falls, for the incarceration of those people who have been convinced against their will.

I left Virgin Falls in the middle of the night, suffering a most acute thirst—for knowledge. Previous to my departure, I dropped a hint upon the person of one of the officials, which created an unfavorable impression after being struck by it. Having taken a mouthful of bottled atmosphere, I again started on my mission. Availing myself of the regular meteor which leaves here daily, I hooked myself under its friendly wing, and was escorted beyond the precincts of the place by a guard of honor, composed of the petty monarch's, big and little, nebulae. That dignitary's principal musician sung a celestial composition, entitled "you are going far away" to a pretty accompaniment on the chords of affection. On my way through space, I encountered the New York *Herald* correspondent in search of a new sensation, unaccompanied by Beecher or Tilton. He looked at me ominously, and as I passed him I shouted "On Stanley, On!" to which he retorted "I guess so!"

I hope the Government will make a note of this apparently insignificant fact. I fear very much for the success of the Lunatic Railroad if the *Herald's* correspondent discovers the nature of my mission. The United States have a superior brand of lunatics, which it is to our interest to suppress; and I am much afraid, that in comparison with those of our American cousins, Canadian lunatics may almost be considered sane.

I reached the boundary line between Ether and Space on the 5th interval of the lunar month. My point of destination is named "Stop-up-Gap." Strange to say, the inhabitants are all males, and have pagan notions upon certain subjects. Their raiment is simple, but somewhat too thin. The place is totally devoid of a second-hand store. A tradition exists that some female missionaries of another sphere once visited this place, and tried to induce these people to become converts to marital views. They were promptly killed off, and I am informed on reliable authority, that in consequence of their decided hostility to the marriage tie, many prelates have been executed here at various times.

The amount of Ether would be productive of an enormous revenue to the country, in its relationship to the trade in decayed teeth. The dental profession would not, as now, hold its own "jaw" instead of that of another. The trade would become brisk. People could get an "enamel polish" at a moment's notice, and Ether would be one of the staples of the Country.

I should advise that this place be bought up by the Government. The Starry Isles would be a capital depot for forwarding supplies by the Ailmentary Canal, which is a natural construction and frequently used. The line from Virgin Falls to Stop-up-Gap, would be an air line; a kind of tubular bridge supported with trusses of the most approved kind. These trusses would rest upon a span of life, composed of thick but living rock. The masonry will be set in the bed of the ocean, a telegraph wire will run through the stone work, create a current, attract the tubular bridge, which will be kept firm on its supports by having several magnets placed above it, on the same principle as Manomet's coffin. This bridge will necessarily be a bridge of size. The inhabitants here, breathe in a whisper, and the stillness of the place makes it an admirable resort for talked-to-death husbands and those who take the most stock in their own company. Dead sea apples grow plentifully. There is a large quantity lying useless, and might be turned to account by selling them three for five cents. In color they are lovely, but their flavor is a matter of taste. The people, though silent, are not an ignorant race; they neither beg, borrow or lend—they steal instead. They would make excellent mutes at a public funeral, and I would suggest that a corps be organized for this express purpose. Upon state occasions they would serve admirably for statues for conservatories, and are excellent imitations of the works of the old masters. Their food consists of one grain of intelligence per day. Their ways are simple and their wants are but few.

My second dispatch will be forwarded as soon as my notes are written up. I should think the cost of the undertaking will not exceed an indefinite amount.

I have the honor to remain Sir,

Your obedient servant,

PAUL FORD,

Engineer in Chief of the Lunatic Railway Survey.



REPORT No. 2.

SPIRIT VALE, MOONLAND,

32nd KINO, SEMI-CYCLE THE ONEITH.

To the Honorable the First Minister of Duffy:—

SIR,—I have the honor herewith to transmit my second and final Report of the Survey of the Lunatic Railroad. This dispatch is sent to you by the Lunar Pneumatic Monographic Association, (Unlimited), whose officers are all men of letters.

My last dispatch was dated from Ski Hi Mountain, which is situated about 17 degrees above its proper level. The survey, as you are already aware, from my former dispatch, was completed as far as Stop-up-Gap. By a most fortunate circumstance I discovered one of the inhabitants, who had for many years been buried in thought, and who was one of the curiosities of the place, suddenly revived, and in a few moments was completely restored to the usual health he enjoyed several generations before. The cause of his resuscitation was produced by the aroma of my breath, which was fragrant with V. O. The inhabitants soon heard of the wonderful phenomenon, and became so intoxicated with delight as to be almost unmanageable. Things, however, were restored to their usual calm, and the grateful Skeri disclosed a scheme by which a direct route could be constructed to the Moon, thereby saving an enormous outlay. Having secured a dead-head ticket, by the Line of Demarcation, Skeri accompanied me on my flight through time. The first stopping place was Misty Islands, from whence I telegraphed you for a subsidy with which to conciliate the inhabitants. The mill and a half was duly received, and I forthwith brought up the place in the name of the great Duffy. This will be an important point for the concentration of ideas upon all subjects. Proceeding from thence in a direct line, we reached Starry Isles in no time, which is a remarkably quick rate of travel, even in this country. With the 2½ cents, which I borrowed by mortgaging my breath, I bought up the ring of Saturn and made the acquaintance of second cousin of Mephistopheles, who is here prospecting for his relative, who owns a large territory, below our planet. I prevented the "corner," to which I referred in my telegram, and soon squared the circle of my acquaintance.

From Starry Isles, Skero accompanied me to Moonland, and it is owing to his wonderful tact that the success of this enterprise is largely due. The route from Starry Isles to Moonland is through an infinity of space, and the mode of transit is by propulsion. The intending traveller takes his seat in a sort of bell-shaped instrument, the latter end of which is open. The operator gets off a joke in order to draw you out, and as soon as your cachinatory proclivities are set in motion, you are "off in a jiffy;" your laughter giving sufficient motive power to keep you going until you reach Moonland.

MOONLAND

I have seen the Man in the Moon. This Imperial lunatic is flat-headed, but his head is level nevertheless. The co-operation of the Imperial Government is anxiously sought for by the Government here. I find that the light of the moon is borrowed, at 20 per cent. which is an extortionate charge, and the Lunar Government requests the assistance of the Universal Government to resist this unreasonable tax. I have been "where the moon-beams linger," and it is a most delightful spot. The inhabitants treat and re-treat. They are all lunatics. The fairies here are similarly gifted. The word "f-e-y," which is of Scandanavian origin, means touched with lunacy, and so the word "f-e-y-ries" is *apropos* and expressive. The Government is managed by the Monarch. The people are an enlightened people. They wear light clothes—very light. They read light fiction, and every facility for throwing light upon any subject is readily afforded. Nothing heavy or requiring any stretch of the imagination is permitted here. The ladies are charming and graceful, but they have light notions, generally. They bathe in the light of each other's eyes. The men are erect and stalwart. They never mix their principles—or their drinks. They do everything *neatly*. In

a commercial sense they are highly intelligent. Mothers-in-law are abolished by Act of Parliament—poor relations are unknown, and everything is done on a cash basis. Doctor's and druggists invariably transact their business on C. O. D. principles. Every time a child is born the happy father is donated ten cents by the Minister of Population. Poverty is unknown, and the amusement of the people is derived principally from thrills of emotion. Their literary tastes are various and instructive. The titles of some of the books in the Imperial Library are suggestive of their love of literature. These are the names of some of them:—"Discourse on the Character of Joseph;" "George Stephenson on Locomotion;" "Dr. Smith on the Want of a Subject;" "Bohne on the Sinew of the Nation;" "Inspirations versus Aspirations;" "Mills on Muscle;" "Mr. Plimsoll's Opinion of the 'Ancient Mariners';" "Grip from a Masonic point of view;" "Marryatt on the Swells of the Ocean," and many others. As in our own country, Toronto, for instance, the people get their religion, not by the Punshon (*Punch*) but by the Potts. The established religion here is mutual admiration and the self-sacrifice of all personal inconveniences. There is no want of the circulating medium here. A fine hospital, built upon the ruins of an ancient temple, may be seen. It was constructed for the safe keeping of those unfortunate people who are blinded by prejudice, as well as of those who are blind to their own interests. At the time I write it is only half full. The other wards are used for the safe keeping of victims of misplaced confidence.

The Department of Public Works is a credit to the country. A correct account of receipts and expenditures is strictly kept, and the Department allows no waste of the raw material under any circumstances. Self-made men are strictly shunned. People who start out in life without a stake in their pockets, are looked upon with contempt. Buildings are being run up with remarkable activity. Each man carries his own foundation with him wherever he goes. Most of the females carry on the business of auctioneers.

The Department of Marine and Fisheries keep a large supply of fresh fish always on hand, but there is no "coddling" done here. Sardines are looked upon as unworthy of cultivation. Piscatorial amusements are chiefly found in running waters.

The Finance Department is in active operation. The chief work of the Department is how to make both ends meet, so as to leave a surplus satisfactory to municipalities.

The Department of Militia and Defence is particularly careful of all the "old soldiers" who are pensioned off after an expiration of their term of service. They are usually employed in recruiting wasted energies and enlisting the sympathies of the people against the invasion of neighboring foes hostile to national progress.

The Department of Customs has the sole right of giving the people their just dues.

The duties of the Privy Council are to strictly preserve State secrets, and to control the Secret Service Funds in its own way. The Clerk of the Council is expected to swear that he will not publish or cause to be published memoirs of the Sovereign on any body else after death—except his own.

The Department of the Interior is excellently managed, on homeopathic principles.

The Supreme Court is organized for the special purpose of deciding the competency of the Judges of the Lower Courts.

The Patent Office is large, and is situated in the east wing of an inventor's brain. The cost of procuring letters-patent is but trifling, and many useful designs are daily registered. One of the best, which I saw working, was for removing elbow grease from old clothes.

The Department of Agriculture has a severe but admirable regulation for preventing the sowing of the seeds of discord among the inhabitants.

The Press is an unfettered institution, it can say or do anything it wishes. The local reporters have a knack, (known only to themselves), of discovering a murder or a robbery, long before it happens, and of ascertaining the existence of a burglary which nobody else ever heard of.

The Senate and the House of Commons are formed for the introduction of Private *Bills* by birds of prey, and for the distribution of a sessional allowance and mileage among impoverished carpet-baggers.

They have also a Pure Brandy Temperance Association, for improving the *spirits* of the people. Nobody dares throw cold water upon its efforts under a heavy penalty.

In conclusion, I would state that, having given you a brief, but, I hope, also a comprehensive account of this great territory, I have no doubt of the success of the scheme. All the lunatics are going crazy about it. I carry the maps of the projected route in my head, where they will remain.

The line as surveyed will not cost over twenty-five cents, and I trust that your Government will not throw any obstacles in the way of its success.

I have the honor to remain, Sir,

Your obedient, humble servant,

PAUL FORD,

Engineer in Chief to the Lunatic Railway Survey.

—:~:—

HEIGHT OF IMAGINATION,

19TH KING.

To the Honorable the First Minister of Duffy:—

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit herewith, a draft Treaty between the Great Duffy and His Exalted Majesty, Night Blooming Ceres, Monarch of the Moon, Emperor of the Starry Isles, etc., etc., upon the subject of the construction of the Imperial, Lunar, Grand, Mid-air, Lunatic, Governmental Railway.

I have the honor to be

Your obedient humble servant,

PAUL FORD,

Chief Engineer R. R. Survey, and Minister *pro tem*,

—:~:—

DRAFT TREATY.

DRAFT OF A TREATY to be made between the Great Duffy, Governor General of the Gallery, and His Exalted Majesty, Night Blooming Ceres, Monarch of the Moon, Emperor of the Starry Isles, Grand Controller of the Constellations, and Imperial Boss of the Great and Little Bears, by and with the consent of the Governments of both spheres, in Parliament assembled.

WHEREAS it is expedient that a closer relationship should exist between the inhabitants of the Moon and adjacent territories, and the Imperial Government of the Gallery, which connection can only be accomplished by scientific and engineering skill, and by the construction of a line of railway between the Earth and Moonland,

It is HEREBY AGREED that, subject to such amendments as may hereafter be agreed upon between the respective Governments aforesaid, that a lunatic railroad be immediately commenced simultaneously at each terminus; and that such funds, subsidies, expenditures, outlays, provision of labor, shall be respectively paid by the Minister of Finance of both spheres, to the extent of one equal moiety of the sum of twenty-five (25) cents, currency of the Dominion of Canada, and three (3) skido inflated currency of the Government and people of Moonland, and its adjacent territories aforesaid. PROVIDED ALWAYS, that such labor and expenditure of the construction of the said line of railway, be subject to the following conditions, or to such conditions as may hereafter be determined by the aforesaid Governments, and expressed in the following articles to wit, viz:—

ARTICLES.

I. That the name of the said undertaking be and is hereby entitled "The Imperial, Lunar, Grand, Mid-air, Lunatic, Governmental Railway."

II. That the primary object of the said Imperial, Lunar, Grand, Mid-air, Lunatic, Governmental Railway, is for the purpose of transporting hither and thither, to and fro, (between latitudes 45 and 45½ from the equator and the 18th parallel of U. Kno, as the Imperial imaginations may determine) such lunatics who may be desirous of settling or colonizing in either of the aforesaid spheres.

III. That such lunatics, who are natural idiots, shall travel free of cost to any point on the proposed line.

IV. That those persons who travel under the head of "crazy" shall be expected to pay half fare, if suspected of being tainted with any semblance of sanity.

V. That the term "crazy" shall be, and is hereby defined as meaning "having a tile loose;" but not totally detached from the cranium.

VI. That violent lunatics shall have a sleeping car to themselves, and such other luxuries as may be thought expedient by the Minister of the Interior or his Deputy.

VII. That all sane people shall be excluded from any privileges of travel on the said road.

VIII. That all persons, citizens of either sphere who are possessed of hereditary taint, be paid a bonus of 10 cents—½ of a skido—for settling in either country.

IX. That all females shall be excluded from statute labor, in recognition of their efforts, at simple addition.

X. That all engineers upon the said road shall be strictly Civil ones; and all complaints of departure from this rule shall be made to the Secretary or Secretaries of each Government.

XI. That the profane use of blasting materials shall be and is hereby strictly abolished.

XII. That all Missionaries, of whatever creed, shall be killed and made fuel of for the purpose of "getting up steam."

XIII. That "V. O." and all stimulants, beverages, and drinks, subject to the provisions contained in the following article, shall pass over the line free of charge.

XIV. That cold water as a beverage, shall be prohibited, under a severe penalty to be fixed upon hereafter

XV. That all bubble Companies shall be excluded from any participation in the profits of the said railroad, except with the sanction of the Governments aforesaid.

XVI. That all people who live by their wits shall be excluded from travelling by the said railroad.

XVII. That all profits derived from the traffic on the said road shall be equally divided among the inhabitants of both spheres, except the profits derived from the honour of this undertaking, which shall be placed to the credit of the Governments of both spheres.

XVIII. That the integrity of the "Milky Way" shall be strictly preserved.

XIX. That the rate of twenty per cent., exacted by the Solar Government for the borrowed lights of the Moon, shall be strenuously resisted by both Governments, and that the Northern Lights shall be used instead, in the event of the Solar Government refusing to lessen their present exorbitant charges.

XX. That the oldest inhabitant of each sphere, shall, upon making affidavit of his exact age, be provided with a post of honor, at a nominal salary upon the said railroad, always, provided that he is *non compos mentis*.

XXI. That any relation of George Washington, or any nurse or other servant, or remote connexion of this family who may be living, shall be immediately exterminated from the face of the earth or of the moon, so as to prevent an unreasonable monopoly in the interests of the country.

XXII. That members of Parliament of both spheres shall have a season ticket upon the said road, provided, they are not too intelligent.

XXIII. That the construction of the said railroad shall be left to the discretion of a Board of Lunatics, to be composed of twenty-five persons, (or such other number as may be determined upon, inhabitants of each sphere.

XXIV. That this treaty does not bind anybody, and may be dissolved at a notice not exceeding five minutes, to be given to the First Minister of each sphere.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this 19th day of Urem, in the 21st cycle of time.



PAUL FORD

MINISTER *pro tem* OF THE GREAT DUFFY.



MUHN SHYNE,

VISIONARY EXTRAORDINARY.

SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

SPEECH:

Gentlemen of the House of the Gallery,—

High on a Throne of Royal State, which far
 Outshines the wealth of Ormus or of Inde
 I now exalted sit, to bid you stop
 Your fooling for a while and never more
 Presume to hold a meeting of this House
 Until I shall permit you by my word
 Of Royal command and Duffy's Proclamation.
 But first before you go *selon la mode*,
 I will refer as briefly as I can
 To some of the grand schemes which since you met
 Two months ago have kept you occupied.
 I much rejoice that I so soon can say,
 "Good bye! get out! your room is what I want
 And not your company;" but still I feel
 I ought to thank you for the rampant zeal
 Which you have manifested for your own
 And Country's good, (N. B.,) of course this is
 But common compliment and nothing more.
 In order to avoid the frauds by which
 Preceding Ministers have office held,
 My pure and honest Government has passed
 An excellent Election law, to which
 I graciously have given my assent.
 The Railway Act will make it easier far
 Than heretofore, to populate the world
 With lunatics and eke to fill the Moon.
 With men of sense, though which is which and who
 Is who, is a conundrum, and that is
 A thing at which I never yet was good.
 You very wisely have adopted means
 By which you all can readily become
 Insolvent, while your judgment has been shown,
 In the exclusion of dead beats and blokes
 From the enormous benefits of the Act.
 I thank you most sincerely for your gift,
 To carry on the service of the State,
 Of close upon five dollars, though I own
 I wish that you had added to the sum
 Sufficient to provide your Duffy dear
 With shekels to expend on S. and B.
 I trust the treaties which have been arranged
 With dead beats, blokes and bummers, and the Moon
 Will be productive to the Gallery
 Of great prosperity and lasting peace.
 We may without unfounded boasting say
 That, during all the years since we were born
 To nationality, there never was
 A time to be compared with this for love,
 And light, and sweetness, and all that; you know
 Just what I mean, I'm sure. Meanwhile, farewell.

[TRANSLATION]

Messieurs de la Tribune :

Perché sur un trône élevé, dont la splendeur royale éclipsé les richesses d'Ormuz et de l'Inde, je me montre en ce moment à vos yeux étonnés, pour vous dire de cesser vos folichoneries pendant un instant et vous ordonner de ne plus vous réunir comme membres de cette chambre, jusqu'à ce que je vous l'ordonne par ma parole souveraine et la proclamation de Duffy.

Mais avant de vous dire de ficher votre camp, laissez-moi, suivant l'usage, passer en revue les grands projets qui depuis deux mois vous ont occupés.

Je suis fort heureux de pouvoir vous dire, "Bonjour, mes agneaux, et allez-vous en ; votre absence me sera plus agréable que votre présence." Cependant, je sens que je dois vous remercier de votre zèle incommensurable pour votre bien et celui du pays. (N.B.—Il va sans dire que ce n'est là qu'un compliment banal et rien de plus.)

Afin d'éviter les fraudes qui ont conduit d'autres ministres au pouvoir, mes excellentissimes ministres ont passé une fameuse loi électorale que j'ai approuvée à deux mains.

L'acte pour la construction du chemin-de-fer lunaire nous mettra à même de peupler plus facilement le monde de lunatiques tac toc et d'envoyer dans la lune des gargons d'esprit, quoiqu'il soit difficile de dire si le fou est un homme d'esprit, ou un homme d'esprit un fou. C'est une devinette, et je n'ai jamais été d'une force de quarante chevaux pour résoudre ces blagues.

Vous avez fort à propos passé une loi qui vous permettra de devenir banqueroutiers pour faire bisquer vos créanciers, tandis que vous avez montré votre esprit en privant les pignoufs et les gnafs des avantages de cette loi.

Je vous remercie d'avoir voté une somme qui va jusqu'à cinq piastres pour les besoins de l'état ; bien que j'aurais aimé à vous voir augmenter cette somme de façon à permettre à votre cher Duffy de se payer "quelque chose de chaud."

J'espère que les traités conclus avec les pignoufs, les gnafs, les jobards et la lune, profiteront à la Tribune, et lui assureront une paix durable.

Nous pouvons, sans nous vanter, dire que depuis que nous sommes assis au banquet des nations, jamais il n'y eut un siècle comparable au notre pour l'amour, les lumières, la tendresse ; vous savez ce que je veux dire. Maintenant blagues dans le coin et Adieu.